

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, please replace the first paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a method of controlling a welding apparatus, whereby individual welding parameters, such as current intensity, a rod feed rate, a welding process, a frequency and/or a pulse duration welding current etc., can be set up by the user in the form of a welding job for a specific welding process by means of a first control unit hard-wired to or integrated in the welding apparatus, and several such welding jobs can be stored in a memory device, and when a welding job is selected by means of the first control unit, the welding apparatus is activated on the basis of the parameters stored therein by means of control system, in particular a microprocessor controller, and the components of the welding system such as a power component, a rod feed systems or a rod feed device, etc., are activated, and when a second control unit is operated, in particular a push-button element disposed on the welding torch, a start signal is sent to the control system in order to start the welding operation, and the invention further relates to a control system for a welding apparatus, comprising a first control unit, a microprocessor controller with a memory device and a power component, and the different parameters can be set up in the form of welding jobs by

means of the first control unit and the welding apparatus activated on the basis of these parameters by the power component, and a second control unit disposed on the torch of the welding apparatus hard-wired to the microprocessor controller, on which a push-button element is disposed for generating a start signal, and the use of the method for controlling a MIG, MAG or ~~WIG~~ TIG/WIG welding apparatus.

On pages 1-2, please replace the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Methods and devices for controlling and setting these welding parameters are already known, whereby some process data can be pre-set and stored by means of a microprocessor controller and an appropriate input-output device, and can be transmitted by means of a control system to the power component of the welding apparatus as and when necessary to enable a welding process to be run on the basis of these parameters. For example, patent specification DE 196 02 876 C2 discloses a method and a device for controlling a ~~WIG-welding~~ TIG/WIG-welding apparatus, by means of which the parameters to be varied are pre-selected from a control system and these parameters can be influenced during the welding process by means of a push-button on the torch provided specifically for this purpose. Using selection elements of the

control system, individual parameters can also be directly retrieved and changed, after which they remain available to the welding program again.

On page 8, please replace the last paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention further relates to the use of the method for controlling a MIG, MAG or ~~WIG~~ TIG/WIG welding apparatus.

On page 11, please replace the first full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

Basically, it should be pointed out that not all of the components mentioned above necessarily have to be used or employed for the different welding processes or welding apparatuses 1, such as ~~WIG~~ TIG/WIG apparatus or MIG/MAG apparatuses or plasma welding apparatuses, for example. This being the case, it may be that an air-cooled welding torch 10 is used as the welding torch 10.

On page 11, please replace the last paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

At this stage, it should be pointed out that the method proposed by the invention and the control system 4 are suitable not only for controlling welding processes operated by feeding the welding rod as an electrode, as is the case with MIG or MAG processes for example, but also for welding process using a permanent electrode, such as ~~WIG~~ TIG/WIG processes for example.

In the Abstract, please replace the Abstract currently on file with the amended Abstract attached hereto on its own separate sheet.